

## HELLO AGAIN

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JAN - FEB 1991

**A PERSONAL NOTE:** Many thanks for the holiday cards. Greg Jackson, Jr. sent his annual celebrity card with vintage Christmas seal (1932). This year Greg sent pictures with captions of Debbie Reynolds and Richard Crenna...With postage rates going up in February, it is more important to send a SASE if you want a response from someone...I still need information from collectors about new shows being offered. As many of you know, I am working on a project combining my Network and Circulation show logs. I need Radio Guides and related magazines as well as information on new shows.

**CONVENTION 1991:** Dates are Oct 24 - 26, 1991. Place is still Holiday Inn-North, Newark, NJ. At our committee meeting many new ideas were presented. Details will be forthcoming.

**REMINISCING:** From June, 1971; Vol. 2, No. 6: Postage is now 8 cents. Special fourth class rate is 14 cents for the first pound (now 90 cents). From The Chicago Tribune of May 9, 1971 is the following information about Charles and Bob Michelson and what they went through in first syndicating The Shadow, Gang Busters, The Lone Ranger and others:

After acquiring the discs to many programs from Conde Nast Publishing Company who absorbed Street and Smith, Bob found 6 stations willing to rebroadcast these programs. Their next step was to transfer the material on to tape. They then squared the project with the performers union, AFTRA. Radio veterans were called in to identify every voice on all the programs. Finally the committee traced everyone, even in Gang Busters and The Lone Ranger. As a result a lot of performers, many retired, and in some cases their estates, have received an unexpected bonanza: residual payments amounting to \$25 and later \$30 for replay. It cost about \$26,000 to get Gang Busters into shape. The Shadow has been heard in some 300 markets. The Lone Ranger is second in popularity. Both adults and youngsters enjoy these programs.

For those sending 4-track reels, be careful about noting the tracks. Side 1 track 1, side 2 track 4 (the outside tracks), side 1 track 3, side 2 track 2 (the inside tracks) seem to be the best way...Many of you are now preprinting the cards or sheets you list the programs on. If you don't put all the details down, at least number the programs so the receiver can quickly find it in your catalog...For boxes that have been used several times, put "To Open" in the right place. This will prevent the opener from destroying the box, especially if you put packaging tape all over the box...attach the end of the tape to the reel so a lot of loose tape won't fall out...Leave several seconds to a minute in between programs...When dubbing, do not chop off credits, chimes, announcements, commercials or other items. Be as careful as you want people to be for you.

**New Friends:** Joanne Burger who puts out a newsletter called Replay which specializes in fantasy... Terry Black...Reverend Bob Mays... Charles Dougherty...Dick Foss...Pat Rispole...Hal Skinner...Bob and Carol Witte (Bob came to our last convention)...Mel Simons (Mel is still active as an entertainer and has a syndicated radio trivia show)...Ray Brunt (big band enthusiast and has huge record collection)...Ernie Hack has excellent stamps with OTR motif (do any of you still have them?)...Bob McMullen...L. L. Forward (I've lost track of many of these people).



## Rosa Rio

(From the Waterbury Republican, April 4, 1971)

Rosa, who was one of the most sought-after organists in the heyday of radio, now lives with her husband, Bill Yeoman in Huntington, CT. She teaches organ and piano at her home studio. In addition she composes, arranges, makes records and plays concerts. Some of the programs she played for were "My True Story," "Between the Bookends (with Ted Malone)," "Edward McHugh, The Gospel Singer," "When a Girl Marries," "Cavalcade of America," "Myrt and Marge," "The Shadow." At one time, Rosa was providing music for 13 shows. Often she just had about 40 seconds to dash from one studio to the next to provide for the next program. Rosa spent 23 years playing for NBC and CBS. Until 1960 she also played for television programs but they didn't give her the satisfaction that radio did.

Rosa recalls that except for the theme, most of the music on the soap operas was improvised. In most instances she saw the script for the first time as the program was going on the air. Rosa was a master at improvisation, being able to fit any mood that was called for. Among the actors that Rosa remembers, who got their start on radio, were Orson Welles, Agnes Moorehead, Bob Hastings, Jackson Beck, Santos Ortega, Ed Begley. Among her favorite programs was "My True Story" and "Rosa Rio Rhythms"

Though Rosa and Bill have abandoned the high pressure living of New York City, moving to Connecticut in 1960, retirement is just a word. She and Bill are busier then ever. She is personable, energetic and, as Bill puts it, keeps eternally young by loving what she does. She is one of the privileged few whose work and hobby are the same.

(Today Rosa and Bill are just as busy; We were fortunate to have the two of them as guests at our convention several times.)

**RADIO IS ALIVE AND WELL:** Walter Winchell's memorabilia was recently sold at an auction in Los Angeles and San Francisco. 40,000 items were on the auction block. The highest bid was \$10,000 for a letter in which Margaret Mitchell corrected an item written about her in Winchell's column. \$140,000 was yielded altogether...**Rambling with Gambling** started in 1925 on WOR in New York with John B. Gambling. His son, John A. Gambling, then took over and just recently, he passed the microphone to his son, John R. The program is the longest continuously running radio program, celebrating its 20,000th broadcast in 1989...**Art Fleming**, original host of Jeopardy, has renewed his contract as host of **When Radio Was**. Fleming has been the host since it started about a year ago. The series is carried by 104 stations...**Superman** returned to radio but only in the United Kingdom. It stars Stuart Milligan as Superman.

**PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED:** **Listening Guide Newsletter**, Oct - Dec; articles about the last 10 years of OTR; OTR Defense Fund report; The Log by Terry Salomonson.. **Nostalgia Digest**, Dec - Jan; articles on Lum and Abner and Lionel Barrymore's performance of "A Christmas Carol"...**Old Time Radio Digest**, Sep - Oct; articles on Cincinnati's 4th annual OTR convention; H. V. Kaltenborn...Nov - Dec, articles on Kenny Delmar, Phil Harris and Alice Faye...**Milwaukee Area Radio Newsletter**, Dec; article on Gene Autry...**Illustrated Press**, Dec; article on Mike Wallace...**Memories** (Old Time Radio Club); devoted to The Cape Cod Radio Mystery Theater...**Daily Sentinel**, Jan - Feb; articles on Art Linkletter; Suspense; Himan Brown...**Metro Washington Club**, Jan - Feb; articles on radio's beginnings, Alan Ladd...**On The Air**, Vol. 19, #1; article on Grand Ole Opry...**Illustrated Press**, Dec; article on Eve Arden, public affairs programs...**Jack Benny Times**, Nov - Dec; article on Tony Butala of the Lettermen.



**BOOKS AND MAGAZINES:** (Just a reminder that these are brief reviews. For more exhaustive reviews, check other newsletters, especially Chris Lembesis's column in the **SPERD-VAC Bulletin**)...J. Steven Coleman, Box 12631, Berkeley, CA 94701 is coming out with a new quarterly, **Modern Radio Drama**, first issue premiering in March. More when I receive a copy.

**ORGANIZATIONS AND CONVENTIONS:** **W Michael Sprague**, 11732 NE 148th Pl, Kirkland, WA 98034 is involved in a new club, **The Radio Enthusiasts of Puget Sound (REPS)**. They have meetings and are starting a cassette library. Write Mike for details

**CATALOGS AND NEW SHOWS:** Received first 1991 update from **AVPRO**, Box 2385, Livonia, MI 48151. New shows include: 6 Crime Does Not Pay; 6 Tales of the Texas Rangers (10/15/50..12/3/50); 6 Red Ryder (3/17/42 - 3/28/42) and 6 Jack Benny (12/29/40 - 2/2/41). For a copy of the update send a SASE.

**YOU AND THE LAW:** The **Shadow Case** is now involving Conde Nast directly. Finding out how Premier was mishandling things, they are countersuing them. Conde Nast is demanding to take over the case and promptly settle with the defendants.

**NEW ADDRESSES:** **James Link**, Box 363, Alta Loma, CA 91701...**Robert Smith**, 232 Atlantic St., Bridgeton, NJ 08302...**Howard Einbinder**, 180 Clinton St., Brooklyn, NY 11201...**Don Stribling**, 1392 Atlantic, Dubuque, IA 52001.

**NEW FRIENDS AND RETURNEES:** **Stephen Holden**, 2617 SE 138th Loop, Vancouver, WA 98694...**David Galerstein**, 44 Center Dr., New Hyde Park, NY 11040...**Jane Townsend**, 2201 Cardinal Dr., Rolling Meadows, IL 60008 is looking for the episode of "Grand Slam" in which her mother won a television set. It was about 1950. Jane doesn't give her mother's name. Hopefully it is Townsend...**Dr. Marvin Bensman**, Dept. of Communications, Memphis State University, Memphis, TN 38152...**Bob Morgan**, 4005 Pitman Rd, College Park, GA 30349...**Harold Gluck**, 1265 NE 171 Ter., North Miami Beach, FL 33162...**Nancy Smith**, 3535 Paulding Ave., Bronx, NY 10469...**Lawrence Rao**, 700 Cherokee Rd. #E, Portsmouth, VA 23701 wants a 7" reel of the Chickenman series...**Albina Wieland**, Box 29B Rt 2, Le Center, MN 56057 wants The Arthur Godfrey Show of the 1940's and 1950's...**James Shaver**, 8201 Eastern Blvd., Baltimore, MD 21224 wants a cassette of Gang Busters with H. Norman Schwarzkoph, superintendent of the New Jersey State Police, narrator by proxy. Schwarzkoph was the father of our current commander in the Persian Gulf, General H. Norman Schwarzkoph...**J. B. Hargus**, 12 Breezewood, Norwalk, OH 44857 looking for tapes of The Hoosier Hot-shots, often on the Grand Ole Opry...**Betty Filepick**, Box 766, Sault St. Marie, MI 49783 looking for Nelson Eddy Shows...**George Fancher**, Box 1545, Poplar Bluff, MO 63901 looking for Snow Village Sketches...**Stephen Maerz**, 3240 Oak Ridge Dr., Joplin, MO 64804 looking for Bing Crosby singing "Singing Hills."

**OLD FRIENDS:** **George Cole**, 92-30 56 Ave. #3D, Elmhurst, NY 11373 looking for used open reel decks...**H. Edgar Cole**, Box 3509, Lakeland, FL 33802 is selling the rest of his collection, about 260 reels, including the all available episodes of Suspense, Escape, X - 1, Mystery is My Hobby and others. He is suggesting \$5 a reel including shipping. Edgar also has an AKAI GX - 625 10 1/2" reel deck with pitch control with 3 heads and 3 motors for \$300 shipped...**Dude Frisch**, 2141 E. 14th St., Long Beach, CA 90804 is looking for any "Point Sublime" so he can pass them on to Noel Blanc...**John Hickman**, host of "The Big Broadcast" on WAMU-FM for 25 years, is in the hospital recovering from a stroke. If you want to send cards the address is John Hickman, c/o 88.5 FM, American University, Washington, DC 20016...**Joe Armento**, Box 561, Oak Ridge, TN 37031 wants the tv and radio shows of Space Patrol and



Tom Corbett, Space Cadet; also tv shows of Suspense and Lights Out.

**IN FOND MEMORY:** **Joan Bennett**, Dec 7, 80; actress in many anthology series including 2 suspense and 9 Lux...**Mathilde Ferro**, Nov 26, 84; write of radio and tv shows (Lorenzo Jones)...**Jack Sterling**, Oct 31, 75; has a wake-up program on WCBS, New York for 18 years...**Oliver Daniel**, Dec 30, 79; producer at CBS Radio (American School of the Air)...**Berry Kroeger**, Jan 4, 78; veteran character actor (The Falcon, First Nighter)...**John Driscoll**, Dec. 23, 77; Radio and tv writer (Cavalcade of America)...**Victor Sack**, Dec 18, 74; Musician, director, producer (produced Grand Slam).

Write if You Get Work....and Hang by Your thumbs

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JAY HICKERSON, Box 4321, Hamden, CT 06514 (203) 248-2887. \$12 a year

Rainy Day Books, P.O. Box 775  
Fitzwilliam NH 03447 (603)-585-3448

We have the following items for sale:

WLS (Prarie Farmer) Family Album: Annual albums, 8 1/2 by 11 inches, paper covers. Many photos of performers. Typically 48 pages. All are in Very Good condition (1935, 36, 38, 39, 40, 41, and 42 have embossed covers) We have all issues from 1934 through 1949 and 1952, 53, 54 and 56  
Prices: 1934 to 1935: \$16 each.  
1936 to 1945: \$15 each.  
1946 to 1956: \$12 each.

Radio Guide: 11 x 14 inches. A weekly magazine typically 36 to 40 pages. Articles about broadcasts and performers. Many photos. Complete listings of programs for the week for Chicago stations. All are in good to VG cond. Price: \$10. each.

Rural Radio: 8 1/2 x 11 inches. Monthly Magazine. "The Only Magazine Publised for Rural Listeners" Typically 30 pages. Articles on performers, many photos. Emphasis on Mid-west. Good cond. \$8.each.  
We have Aug 1938, Sept 1938 and Dec 1938

Scripts: True Detective Mysteries: These are all half hour scripts published by Macfadden Publications New York. From the numbering they may be from the early 1930's. They are all originals, spirit duplicated on 8 1/2 x 11 inch paper, generally in good cond. Most have first names of performers playing various parts penciled on the front page. Interesting reading from a time when no one worried about informing criminals of their rights. \$12. each. We have the following:  
#1 - How We Trapped the Killers of Mr. & Mrs. Coleman  
#2 - Dancing Killers #4 - Dead or Alive  
#5 - The Riddle of the Dead Singer.  
#6-30 - Trapping the Broadway Slayers  
#10-30 - Solving the Glendale Bank Robbery  
#20-30 - Picotte's Ghost  
#25-30 - The Enigma of Rocky River.  
#26-30 - Killer at the Casement  
#32-30 - Tracked in Oil  
#33-30 - Blue Clues.  
#34-30 - Murder at the Picnic  
#35-30 - Death at the Good Samaritan.

Terms: Prices are net to all. Send check with order. Telephone orders accepted. We shall hold items for 10 days pending receipt of payment. Items not as advertised may be returned within 10 days. Shipping: \$3. single charge with any order. All items shipped flat by U.S. mail. UPS shipment \$3. extra.  
Catalog: An order will put you on our mailing list or send \$.50 (stamps) for catalog of hardcover books on radio broadcasting history and personalities to be issued in the near future.